

## Message Text

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71

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 /110 W

----- 018021

R 232143Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1145

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 3438

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, EC

SUBJ: "DEMOCRATIC RESTORATION FRONT" DEEMED A FAILURE

REF: QUITO 3668 (7/13/73)

1. THE DEMOCRATIC RESOTRATION FRONT HAS BEEN A FAILURE, ACCORDING TO ITS PRINCIPAL SPOKESMAN, LIBERAL PARTY LEADER FRANCISCO HUERTA MONTALVO. THE FRONT, A LOOSE COALITION INCLUDING THE LIBERALS, CONSERVATIVES, VELASQUISTAS, SOCIALISTS AND SUNDRY OTHER LESSER POLITICAL GROUPS, WAS LAUNCHED LAST JULY FOR THE PURPOSE OF ORGANIZING ECUADOR'S TRADITIONAL POLITICAL FORCES IN FAVOR OF A RETURN TO CIVILIAN RULE. IN THE FACE OF APPARENT POPULAR APATHY AND THE REGIME'S OBVIOUS DISFAVOR, THE CHIEF RESULT OF THE FRONT'S DESULTORY ACTIVITIES HAS BEEN THE TEMPORARY CONFINEMENT OF VARIOUS OF ITS SPOKESMEN DURING THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS.

2. THE ONLY FRONT PERSONALITY CURRENTLY UNDER DETENTION IS SOCIALIST PARTY LEADER GONZALO OLEAS. HE HAS BEEN "EXILED" SINCE FEBRUARY AT A MILITARY OUTPOST IN THE ORIENTE AS A RESULT OF SOME PUBLIC CRITICISM OF GOE POLICIES (QUITO 992). HIS CONTINUED DETENTION HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF CRITICAL EDITORIAL COMMENT DURING THE PAST FEW WEEKS, BY COMMENTATORS NOT NOTED FOR THEIR  
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ANTI-REGIME POSTURE WHO, IN EFFECT, SEEM TO FEEL THAT

THE INCIDENT IS PASSING THE BOUNDS OF GOOD SENSE. ALL  
OF THIS SUGGESTS THAT A GUAYAQUIL NEWS REPORT OF MAY 21,  
OTHERWISE UNCONFIRMED, THAT THE RELEASE OF OLEAS IS  
IMMINENT, MAY BE TRUE. IF SO, IT WOULD LEND EMPHASIS  
TO HUERTA'S PESSIMISTIC JUDGEMENT. THE FRONT'S ONLY  
VISIBLE ACCOMPLISHMENT DURING TEN MONTHS OF EXISTENCE  
HAS BEEN THE PUBLICITY ARISING FROM THE ARREST OF ITS  
LEADERS.  
BREWSTER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL STABILITY, DETENTION, POLICIES, POLITICAL PARTIES, PARTY FRONT ORGANIZATIONS, POLITICAL PRISONERS, EXILES, PARTY LEADERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 MAY 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GarlanWA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974QUITO03438  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740129-1037  
**From:** QUITO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Line Count:** 70  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** QUITO 3668 (7/13/73)  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GarlanWA  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 12 SEP 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <12 SEP 2002 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <03 MAR 2003 by GarlanWA>  
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30 JUN 2005

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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** "DEMOCRATIC RESTORATION FRONT" DEEMED A FAILURE  
**TAGS:** PINT, EC, (HUERTA MONTALVO, FRANCISCO), (OLEAS, GONZALO)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005